

and technology—can be marshaled to guide conscientious, contemporary public policy in a fast-changing world.

Should it turn out that sacrifice by American citizens—even the stark sacrifices such as those portended by Kyoto—are warranted, we must have confidence that all the information is in, integrated, and understood, not only by elected officials, but also by the people we are privileged to serve.

I look forward to getting together soon to explore ways for real progress—consensus action—this year.

Sincerely,

LARRY E. CRAIG,
U.S. Senator.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GORTON). Under the previous order, the Senator from Washington is recognized.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak in morning business for 15 minutes, and that when Senator KENNEDY speaks, that he also be given 15 minutes in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CRAIG. Will the Senator yield for a unanimous consent request?

Mrs. MURRAY. Absolutely.

Mr. CRAIG. The Senator has been very patient. I appreciate that.

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—S. 2742

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk due for its second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2742) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase disclosure for certain political organizations exempt from tax under section 527 and section 501(c), and for other purposes.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I object to further proceedings on this bill at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the rule, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

The Senator from Washington.

HANFORD REACH

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I have come to the floor today to talk about a challenge the people of Washington State face. It is an environmental challenge, a legal challenge, and a moral challenge. That challenge is to rescue a symbol of the Pacific Northwest.

That challenge is to recover our wild Pacific salmon.

As anyone who lives in Washington State can tell you, the salmon of our region are more than a symbol. They are part of our culture, our heritage, our recreation, and our economy.

Unfortunately, the salmon that were once so abundant in our rivers and

along our shores are now in danger. In fact, today several species of salmon are threatened with extinction.

When it comes to saving salmon, solutions are not easy to find.

There are so many different viewpoints to consider. Everyone from recreational and commercial fishermen to Native Americans and conservationists, to State, local, and Federal officials, along with private property owners have a role to play in helping us meet this challenge.

In my time here in the Senate, I have always worked to bring people together, and to find solutions that help us meet this challenge while still keeping our economy strong.

Today, I have come to the floor to share with my colleagues and the American people some progress we have recently made in meeting this challenge.

I am proud to report that just last week, we took a major step forward to save wild salmon. Seven days ago, the President designated a vital salmon spawning ground—known as the Hanford Reach—as a national monument.

I was proud to stand on the banks of the Columbia River, beside the Vice President, when this historic announcement was made. It was a dream come true. For a long time, many of us have dreamed of preserving the Reach. There are few places in the world like it.

For me and my family, as for many families throughout the region, the Columbia and Snake Rivers hold deep personal meaning.

My grandfather settled in the Tri-Cities in 1916. My dad grew up there. He watched his hometown become the home of a secret factory—a factory now known as the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, a factory that would give America the tools to win World War II.

When my dad came back from his military service in the Pacific theater, he was injured, and he had lost a lot of friends in combat. He wasn't the same. And the place he came back to wasn't the same either.

He knew that his hometown—perhaps more than any other—contributed to winning the war by producing the weapon that ended World War II. And he took a lot of pride in that fact.

In my own life, I have spent a lot of time in the Tri-Cities. Growing up, I remember during my summer vacation getting in our car and driving to the Tri-Cities to see my Grandma—watching the hydros and swimming in the river with my six brothers and sisters.

When I was in college, I spent a great summer working at Sacajawea State Park at the confluence of the Snake and Columbia Rivers. I came to respect the history of the area, and the people who lived in the community.

The first time I floated down the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, I was with my daughter, Sara. We were

so impressed with the beautiful landscape, the fish and the wildlife, and the reminders of the vibrant Native American culture that abounds along the Hanford Reach.

As we floated along, we saw the reactors, and I told her about the role the Tri-Cities played in helping America win World War II and about her grandfather's part in that important piece of history. We were both deeply affected by that day on the river, and it is a memory I cherish.

When I started fighting to protect the Hanford Reach, my dad told me he thought it was great that I was working to give something back to a community that had given so much to our family and to our country. So last Friday, when Vice President GORE announced the designation of the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River as a national monument, the toughest part of that day for me was that I had lost my father a few years ago and he was not there to see it happen.

The national monument designation doesn't just enable us to remember our past, it allows us to capture our future—in large part by saving wild salmon.

The Hanford Reach spans only 51 miles of the Columbia River's 1,200 miles, but it spawns 80% of the wild fall Chinook produced in the entire Columbia Basin.

Thanks to the designation, this vital breeding ground has been protected.

The designation also preserves the unique history of this area.

Generations of Americans will be able to learn about the sacrifices that the people of the Tri-Cities made to help America win World War II, and generations more will be able to learn about the long Native American history along the Columbia River.

In addition, the designation will ensure that families can use the river for recreation for years into the future.

This is the right thing to do. And doing the right thing also means keeping your promises.

The people of the Tri-Cities have been given too many broken promises. I do not intend to be another link in that chain.

The designation is not the end of the process, but the beginning.

As I told the people of the Tri-Cities last week, I will continue to work with local leaders to ensure that their voices are heard. Working together—with an open dialogue—we can reach the best solution.

Over the years, a lot of people helped make the designation possible.

Mr. President, I want the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to forever reflect the tireless work of people like Rick Leamont, Rich Steele, Bob Wilson, Laura Smith, Mike Lilga, Jim Watts, and Dave Goeke.

I thank the person who worked side-by-side with me in the House as we developed legislative solutions for how to